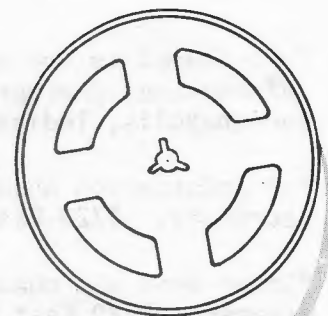


TAPE SQUEAL



INDIANA RECORDING CLUB, INC.
Volume XXIII, Number 5 - May, 1982

To Sound Good,

THUMB YOUR NOSE

by: RON PAGE

Everyone who's fairly new to the hobby of tape corresponding wonders how to talk to "someone who isn't there" and how to record a tape that isn't full of technical errors. Well, if you consider yourself in this beginner's category, take heart. All Tape Correspondents go through it. The following hints may help you.

The two mistakes most often made by novice recordists are (1) speaking at an improper distance from the mike, and (2) handling the mike while recording.

When recording your voice, experiment to find an ideal distance from the mike, considering both your normal speaking voice and your recording equipment. As a starting point, try the long-used "thumb-the-nose" routine. Here's how it works:

Touch the tip of your nose with the tip of your thumb, extend your hand as though you were thumbing your nose, and position your mike so the tip of your little finger just touches the front of your mike. Within two or three inches, that distance will be perfect for your voice. Any closer than this and you will likely record undesirable breath pops onto the tape, noticeable when played back on a portable and downright intrusive when played back on more sophisticated component equipment. And if you speak further away you will run the risk of not having a good sense of "presence."

Next, never never touch or handle a microphone while recording, because you will load the tape with undesirable mechanical noises. If your new tape friend is listening on wide range playback equipment, the mere brush of a fingertip against a mike may lift him or her right out of a chair. Pay no attention to folks on TV who often hand-hold a mike. They are using special equipment that stops low-frequency sound long before it reaches your home.

Position your mike so you can sit and talk comfortably, without leaning forward or backward. Use a stand, or anything else that will isolate your mike from mechanical vibrations. A one-inch thick piece of foam plastic is one of the best and cheapest accessories around, as it can be used under the microphone, the turntable, and speakers to stop mechanical vibration and acoustical feedback. Think about it. And relax. Because your new tape friend wants to relax too and hear you at your best.

Carefully adjust your recording volume to the situation at hand rather than vice-versa. Once you've settled in and stabilized your microphone technique, you can use the exact same recording volume time and time again.

Tape Squeal is the monthly newsletter of the INDIANA RECORDING CLUB. Send all news information, photographs, etc. to: Sharon Moore, editor, 4215 North Oxford Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46205.

For information about membership in the INDIANA RECORDING CLUB contact: Eleanor Davies, secretary, 1729 East 77th Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46240. Telephone (317)2517048.

Please send all changes of address and directory data to: Eleanor Davies, directory manager, 1729 East 77th Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46240.

Your INDIANA RECORDING CLUB Board of Directors consists of Dennis Burcher, Pres.; Bill Tillett, Vice-Pres.; Eleanor Davies, Secretary; John Oliver, Treasurer; and Bill Endicott and Gene Scott, Members.

TO ALL NEW MEMBERS (In the United States)

When you receive your welcoming tape please return the accompanying postcard to the committee chairman: William Kearney, 2625 West Jefferson Road, Kokomo, Indiana 46901.

ADDRESS CHANGES --all address changes MUST be sent to the Directory Manager at least one month before the effective date to ensure uninterrupted delivery of the Tape Squeal.

TRADING POST

Free notices for IRC members, concerning tape and related items to sell, buy, trade, etc.

Barb Laatsch, D-66, has available a 22-page booklet on how to find beautiful scenes and interesting camera subjects in New England. Book is filled with directions and tips for good angles and lighting conditions for specific areas, and is available from Barb for \$4.00. A similar book on Nova Scotia is in progress.

Mary I Short, D-18, is wanting some overseas tapers.

Ron Baron, D-70 — has for sale blank tape, 7" reel, 1800', Ampex 641, used, for \$55 postpaid for a case of 60. Also, new, empty, 7" reel boxes, 30¢ each postpaid. Also, new cassette, C-60s, screw-type housing, loaded with TDK tape, for \$26.50 postpaid for a box of 25.

Eugene Reiner, D-63 — is looking for a copy of the Lambeth Walk, a dance craze in the late 30s. Also, a copy of the Bill Stern Sportsnewsreel show with Beneta Granville.

Harold Ellingham, S-27 — is looking for Stan Kenton AFRS, air checks, night club, and concert programs. Send the program on a C-90 good quality cassette and he will return a recorded program you will enjoy (guaranteed). He will pay postage both ways.

Angel Morales, S-4 — has the following jazz programs available (from Voice of America Jazz programs, m.c.'d by Willis Conover)—Bunny Berigan; Airmen of Note (Jazz ensemble of the US Air Force); Andre Previn; The Funeral of Louis Armstrong; Alvino Rey; The Black Swing Tradition; The Music of Rodgers and Hart/Hammerstein; Rare old 78s; Duke Ellington; The "Sax Machine" (Jazz by an Italian group); Jazz from Poland; and Charlie Parker. All programs are 45 minutes in length, therefore 2 will fit on a C-90. Programs are free if you provide cassettes and postage, but will be \$3.00 if Angel provides both.

Ed Gleim, S-1 — is looking for three completely different programs:

- a 1930's hit "Malague in F" by anyone
- "I Really Don't Want to Know" by Elvis
- Music by the late 60's group Mason

Proffitt.

Will supply tape (reel or cassette), and postage, or can dub from your tape and return. Can exchange for music from vast collection of every type of music. Write First!!

Of sounds gone by

Kokomo's Bill Kearney is 'a listener'

By Glen Banner
Associate editor

Our own Bill Kearney, Chairman of the IRC Welcome Committee, recently made the headlines in a Kokomo newspaper, the Community Messenger. Here's the article:

In retirement, Kokomo's Bill Kearney has many interests. He loves to travel and is an avid photographer, but his foremost avocation is that of a "listener."

The basement of his westside home is filled with tape recorders, speakers and tape duplication gear. The walls are lined with shelves of reel-to-reel tapes and filing cabinets are crammed with tape cassettes.

Bill is one of some 100 Hoosier members of the Indiana Recording Club, an organization formed in 1960 to exchange ideas on tape recording, trade tapes and share common interests.

Kearney is a retired employee of Delco Electronics. Over the years, he has been active in Scouting programs. He has also been active in the Indiana Oral History Project and was instrumental in starting a branch of that effort here.

Interests of those in the Indiana Recording Club are many. The club offers its members four tape libraries, which are located in the homes of four of its members. They include a Music Library, Living History Library, Old Radio Library and Creative Library.

Tapes found in the Creative Library concern various fields of study, along with subjects on craft hobbies and travel. The history library is small but includes the sounds which have made history during the years since sound recording was invented.

The club has more than 500 tapes in its music library, which has a wide range of subject matter. Bill is interested in the music of the Big Band Era and is a collector of songs recorded by Ruth Etting, who played the tope clubs in Bill's native Chicago during the 1920s and 1930s.

Ruth Etting recorded from 1924 through 1936 and Bill has about 75 percent of her music.

A first year membership in the Indiana recording club

is \$10 with \$7 annual dues thereafter. The initial \$10 includes a directory of members, not only in Indiana and the United States but from many foreign countries.

Members meet each third Sunday of the month in Indianapolis to exchange ideas and tapes. They often correspond with each other by letter, but more often by tape.

Other member in the Kokomo area include Dr. George Jewell, John Hingst, Philip G. Enders and Mary

L. Wood of Bunker Hill.

Each member also receives a newsletter each month, offering items of interest on other members, new techniques in recording and information on mailing tapes.

In addition to his tapes, Bill has a large collection of 78 rpm records, many of which he found over the years in the Toto Store near Knox. He has been systematically recording the 78s, many of them in mint condition, onto tape so that the music will live on.

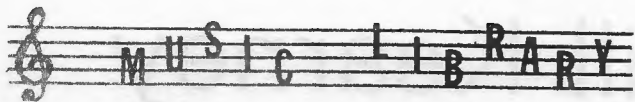


Bill's basement is his studio

PLEASE NOTE: Bill Kearney is not the only I.R.C. member to make the news lately! We have several articles from and about other members and will publish them as time and space allow. If you have made the news, send the article to the Editor, and it will be used when possible.

TECHNICAL NOTES

Gene Eaton



When the IRC Music Library was started over nineteen years ago, the first tape, "Far Away Places", by the Enoch Light Orchestra, was donated by *Ken Gillmore, #113*. The library has now grown to over 470 reels and 160 cassettes, and Ken is still contributing. The latest addition to the library, "The Best of Gilbert & Sullivan", was contributed by Ken after he read my request in last month's Tape Squeal for Gilbert & Sullivan music, following the demise of the D'Oyly Carte Opera Co.

Another Gilbert & Sullivan cassette, "The Mikado" was received from the "crazy tape-worn" in Florida, *Dick Kenny, #409*. The other two cassettes listed below were received from *Jim Herdman, #26*.

- C-161. The Sound of Music & Selections from Camelot. From the moving picture sound tracks. (Dolby)
- C-162. Max Bygraves Sings All the Old Songs. (Dolby)
- C-163. The Mikado, by Sadler's Wells Opera Co. of London. C-90.
- C-164. Selections from The Mikado, The Pirates of Penzance, Patience & The Gondoliers. By the Royal Philharmonic Orch. of London. C-90.

---Bill Davies, Music Librarian

VOICE OF HISTORY

- VH-100. General MacArthur's Speech to Congress, April 19, 1951. This cassette donated by *Kenneth L. Harvitt, #1717*.

Magnetic microphones are the final of the four types we will discuss in this series. They are of two types, variable reluctance and dynamic.

The variable reluctance microphone was developed by GE during the late 1940's along with an associated preamplifier. It consisted of a diaphragm coupled to an iron vane suspended in a magnetic field, with a coil closely coupled to the vane for output. It was simple, very rugged, with a reasonable signal level and long cable length.

Internal capacitance was low, with a load resistance of 22,000 ohms into a 2 stage compensated amplifier that would give about 1/2 volt drive into the main unit. Easily cased, the frequency range was from 50 cps to 13,000 cps, an excellent curve.

Classed as a medium impedance microphone, it was used in many areas such as mobile radio service and amateur (and to a certain extent hobbyist) services. This same class element and the designed pre-amp also appeared in hi-fi units in the early 1950's, providing very good and far from cheap service.

The dynamic microphone is identical in its elements to the familiar loud speakers we all have. The microphone consists of a paper diaphragm that has a coil moulded to it operating in a magnetic field which is supplied by a permanent magnet. It is coupled through a transformer to raise the very low coil impedance of 3.2 - 8 ohms up to a reasonable working level of from 50 - 600 ohms. Cable length is indeterminate since it feeds either into a transformer or a low impedance transistor stage.

The packaging is moderate to small, a rugged unit not influenced by temperature. The frequency range is very good, running from 50 cps to over 15,000 cps with suitable compensation. Simple and effective, the unit is also relatively inexpensive. It is commonly used today by a majority of services, from broadcasting, mobile radio, CB, to hobbyist use such as recorders and PA systems. All services make use of the virtues of low cost and ruggedness, making this microphone almost universal in its applications.

44 Uses for a Recorder

from: NORMAN SALMONS

- [illegible]

SCHEDULED MEETINGS

Regularly scheduled meetings of the INDIANA RECORDING CLUB are held on the third Sunday of each month at 2:00 pm in the basement meeting room of the Leppert & Copeland Mortuary (740 E. 86th Street) in INDIANAPOLIS. *GUESTS ARE WELCOME!!!*

APRIL 18TH

Technical Advisor GENE EATON will discuss equipment maintenance. A question and answer session will follow. For those who are unable to attend, the session will be recorded, so watch the T.S. for info about the availability of the tape.

MAY 16TH

BILL TILLET's surprise session is still a surprise! Be certain to mark this date on your calendar now so that it won't sneak up on you and surprise you!! About the only thing that won't be a surprise will be the coffee and chatter that will be quite plentiful. Join Us.

JUNE 20TH

Australia and New Zealand will be the destinations for those gathered to go "down under" will BILL DAVIES as he presents his tape-slide show "Koalas, Kiwis, and Kangaroos."

RECORD COLLECTORS' CONVENTION

The second of a series of Record Collectors' Conventions will be held on June 6 at the Atkinson Hotel, Illinois and Georgia Streets, Indianapolis. IRC member GERALD RUARK is coordinating the event, which will feature thousands of phonograph records, tapes, posters, books, and many other music-related items. Dealers from Indiana and other medwestern states will provide the materials which will represent a wide variety of tastes in music.

The public is encouraged to bring any records they wish to sell or trade. Anyone interested in obtaining booth space should contact Gerald.

The first of the series will be held on April 18th from 10am to 5pm at the Holiday Inn, I-70 East, 6990 E. 21st St., Indianapolis. Admission is only \$1 and free parking will be provided.

*mailed at Indy on or
before - April 9*

MAILING LABELS

two color with IRC logo

Reel size: 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 4 $\frac{1}{4}$

Cassette size: 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ x 4

Price - \$1.75/100 - either size

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Indianapolis, IN. 46227

When ordering, please specify size.

INDIANA RECORDING CLUB

Sharon Moore, Editor

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Indianapolis, IN 46205

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